

navigation control button [for selecting one of the stored images], and one or more function keys, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) allowing a user to navigate among the displayed images using the navigation control button;

(b) allowing the user to randomly select one of the displayed images;

[(a)] (c) assigning a mark function to one of the function keys, such that in response to a user pressing the assigned mark function key, the image currently selected is marked to provide a marked image;

[(b)] (d) repeating [step (a)] steps (a) through (c) to create a temporary group of marked images[, wherein mark information is not stored with the images]; and

[(c)] (e) assigning at least one group function to one of the function keys, such that in response to the user pressing the assigned group function key, the group of marked images is collectively manipulated by the user within the digital camera.

2. (Once Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein step [(c)] (e)further includes the step of:

[(c1)] (e1) providing a view function as the at least one group function, such that in response to a user pressing the assigned view function key, each of the marked images is displayed sequentially in the view finder without manual intervention.

3. (Once Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein step [(c)] (e)further includes the step of:

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[(c1)] (e1) providing a save function as the at least one group function, such that in response to a user pressing the assigned save function key, a permanent group of images is created by saving each of the marked images in a folder.

4. (Once Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein step [(c)] (e)further includes the step of:

[(c1)] (e1) providing a slide show function as the at least one group function, such that in response to a user pressing the assigned slide show function key, a permanent group of images is created by saving each of the marked images in a file.

5. (Twice Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein step [(c)] (e) further includes the step of:

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[(c1)] (e1) providing a duplicate function as the at least one group function, such that in response to a user pressing the assigned duplicate function key, each of the marked images are duplicated, and if no images have been marked, then the image currently selected is duplicated.

6. (Twice Amended) A method as in claim 1 wherein step [(c)] (e) further includes the step of:

[(c1)] (e1) providing a delete function as the at least one group function, such that in response to a user pressing the assigned delete function key, each of the marked images is deleted, and if no images have been marked, then the image currently selected is deleted.

7. (Twice Amended) A method as in claim 1 further including the step of:

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[(d)] (f) assigning an unmark function to one of the function keys, such that in response to the user pressing the assigned unmark function key, the mark number is removed from the image currently selected is unmarked.

8. (Three Times Amended) A method for grouping a series of images stored in a digital camera, the digital camera including a navigation control button, one or more function keys, and a view finder for displaying stored images, the method comprising the steps of:

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(a) allowing a user to navigate among the displayed images using the navigation control button;

(b) allowing the user to randomly select one of the displayed images;

[(a) selecting one of the stored images in response to a user pressing a navigation control button;]

[(b)] (c) enabling the user to mark the selected image using a corresponding function key;

[(c)] (d) displaying a mark indication on the selected image in response to the user pressing the corresponding function key; [and]

[(d)] (e) repeating steps (a) through [(c)] (d) to provide a temporary group of marked images[, wherein mark information is not stored with the images];

[(e)] (f) enabling the user to select one of the functions of saving the group, deleting the group, and creating a slide show from the group using a corresponding function key; and

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comd [(f)] (g) saving the group, deleting the group, and creating a slide show
from the group in response to the user pressing the appropriate function key.

9. (Twice Amended) A method as in claim 8 wherein step [(c)] (d) further includes

C5 the step of:

[(c1)] (d1) providing a mark number as the mark indication.

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N (Three Times Amended) A method as in claim 9 further including the steps of:

C6 [(g)] (h) [prompting] allowing the user to unmark the selected image using a
corresponding function key; and

[(h)] (i) removing the mark indication from the selected image in
response to the user pressing the corresponding function key.

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12 (Twice Amended) A method as in claim *N* ¹⁰ wherein step (a) further includes the
step of:

C7 [(a1)] (b1) prompting the user to duplicate the selected image using a
corresponding function key; and

[(a2)] (b2) duplicating the selected image in response to the user pressing the
corresponding function key.

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comt ¹² ₁₃ (Three Times Amended) A digital camera device comprising:

a memory device [coupled to said digital camera device] for storing sets of image data;

a memory manager for allocating storage locations within said memory device to store said sets of image data;

an interface coupled to said memory device whereby an external host computer can access said sets of image data stored in said memory device;

a user interface for displaying a plurality of images corresponding to the image data, the user interface including a plurality of function keys, and means to navigate among and randomly select one of the plurality of images;

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means coupled to the memory manager for assigning a mark function to one of the function keys, such that in response to the user pressing the assigned mark function key, the selected image is marked, such that in response to the user repeatedly selecting images and pressing the assigned mark function key, a temporary group of marked images is created[, wherein mark information is not stored with the images]; and

means coupled to the memory manager for assigning at least one group function to one of the function keys, such that in response to a user pressing the assigned group function key, the group of marked images is collectively manipulated by the user, within the digital camera.
